



Lake County Department of Solid Waste

"Earning Community Confidence through Excellence in Service."

Media Release

Contact: Denise Gainer
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For Immediate Release

ALTERNATIVES TO HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Tavares, June, 2002 – Summer is the time of year we find ourselves dealing with bugs on plants and in the yard, fleas on pets, cleaning things that haven't been used over the winter months, painting, and just plain fixing up things around the house. Many of those projects call for the use of hazardous chemicals. ***Or do they?***

The Lake County Department of Solid Waste Management, Hazardous Waste Division would like residents to know there ARE Alternatives to using hazardous materials. Please consider reducing hazardous waste by using the following suggested items.

Ants	Red chili powder at entry
Drain Cleaner	Plunger followed by ½ cup baking soda + ½ cup vinegar + 2 quarts boiling water
Fertilizer	Compost
Flea & Tick repellent	Pine needles, fennel, rye or rosemary on or in pet's bed
Fleas (on pets)	Feed pet brewer's yeast, Vitamin B or garlic tablets
Flies (insects)	Well-watered basil plant
Insects on plants	Soapy water of leaves, then rinse
Mildew remover	Equal parts vinegar & salt
Nematode (worm) repellent	Plant marigolds
Oven cleaner	2 tablespoons liquid soap + 2 teaspoons



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	borax + warm water
Paint; oil based/stain/spray	Water-based, non-aerosol paints
Paint brush softener	Hot vinegar
Roach repellent	Chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins
Rusty bolt/nut removal	Carbonated beverage
Slug and snail repellent	Onion and marigold plants
Spot remover	Club soda, lemon juice, or salt
Air freshener	Simmer cinnamon and cloves
Aluminum spot remover	2 tablespoons cream of tartar + 1 quart hot water
Bleach	Borax
Brass polish	Worcestershire sauce
Car battery corrosion	Baking soda + water
Chrome polish	Apple cider vinegar; then polish w/ baby oil
Cleaners (general household)	Baking soda
Coffee Cup stain remover	Moist salt
Coffee pot stain remover	Vinegar
Copper cleaner	Lemon juice + salt
Decal remover	Soak in white vinegar
Dish detergent-grease cutter	½ cup baking soda + usual amount of liquid detergent
Fiberglass stain remover	Baking soda paste
Floor cleaner	1 cup vinegar + 2 gallons water
Furniture polish	1 tablespoon lemon oil in 1 pint mineral oil
Garbage disposal deodorizers	Used lemons
Grease fire	Douse with baking soda
Grease removal	Borax on damp cloth



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Hand cleaner for paint/grease	Baby oil
Ink spot remover	Cold water + 1 tablespoon cream of tarter + 1 tablespoon lemon juice
Laundry detergent	Basic soap
Laundry pre-soak	Make paste of baking soda & water; apply to spots
Linoleum floor cleaner	1 cup white vinegar + 2 gallons water
Mosquito repellent	Burn citronella candles
Multi-Purpose Cleaner	Mix ½ cup ammonia, 1/3 cup vinegar, ¼ cup baking soda in 1 gallon of warm water
Oil stain remover	White chalk rubbed into stain before laundering
Perspiration spot remover	Baking soda
Pet odor remover	Cider vinegar
Porcelain cleaner	Make paste from baking soda & water; let set, rub, clean and rinse
Rug/carpet cleaner	Club soda
Rust removal (clothing)	Lemon juice + salt + sunlight
Scorch mark removal	Grated onion
Scouring powder	Baking soda
Shaving cream	Brush and shaving soap
Shoe polish	Banana peel
Silver polish	1 quart warm water + 1 tablespoon baking soda + piece of aluminum foil + 1 tablespoon salt
Stainless steel polish	Mineral oil
Toilet bowl cleaner	Paste of borax + lemon juice
Tub and tile cleaner	¼ cup baking soda + ½ cup white vinegar



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	+ warm water
Upholstery spot remover	Club soda
Water mark removal	Toothpaste
Water softener	¼ cup vinegar
Wine stain removal	Salt
Window cleaner	Use ½ cup of vinegar in 1 gallon warm water
Wood polish	3 parts olive oil + 1 part vinegar; or, almond or olive oil (interior unvarnished wood only)

Reduce hazardous waste at the source by using alternative applications. And when you do use hazardous waste, please dispose of it properly by bringing it to the Lake County Landfill Hazardous Waste Disposal Site or the Citizen Drop-off Centers.